

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 AID-05 EB-07 CPR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2609

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1273

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM.), PFOR, CE, US

SUBJ: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER

REF: STATE 091133

MANILA PASS SECRETARY SIMON'S PARTY

1. IN VIEW SECRETARY SIMON'S BEING OUT-STATION AND TIGHT TAKE-OFF SCHEDULE, IT WAS PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO TRY FOR SECOND MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER AND IN ANY EVENT HIGHLY UNLIKELY SHE WOULD BE ABLE SEE HIM AGAIN GIVEN HER DEPARTURE TONIGHT FOR 25-DAY VISIT ABROAD (SEPTTEL). SECRETARY SIMON DID, HOWEVER, TRANSMIT PRESIDENT'S LETTER UNDER COVER FOLLOWING THANK-YOU WHICH HE SIGNED JUST BEFORE BOARDING AIRCRAFT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: "DEAR MADAM PRIME MINISTER: JUST BEFORE MY DEPARTURE FROM SRI LANKA, I AM PLEASED TO FORWARD THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO YOU FROM MR. GERALD R. FORD, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, WHICH ARRIVED THIS MORNING. I BELIEVE YOU WILL FIND IT A SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SRI LANKA. I MOST THOROUGHLY ENJOYED OUR CONVERSATION YESTER-

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DAY. YOUR WISDOM, PERCEPTIONS, COURAGE, AND ALERT

SPIRITWERE INDEED STIMULATING, AND I PROFITED
GREATLY FROM THE EXCHANGE.
I HAVE ALSO HAD A BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO SAVOR
THE SCENIC BEAUTY OF YOUR COUNTRY AT BERUWELA.
I THANK YOU FOR THE INVITATION TO VISIT HERE
AND WISH YOU ALL SUCCESS IN YOUR HARD WORK FOR THE
WELL-BEING AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OF THE PEOPLE OF
SRI LANKA.
SINCERELY YOURS, WILLIAM E. SIMON, SECRETARY OF
THE TREASURY." END TEXT.

3. PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARY, DHARMASIRI PIERIS,
HAS ASSURED EMBASSY HE WILL DELIVER SECRETARY
SIMON'S LETTER WITH PRESIDENTIAL EXCLOSURE TO
PRIME MINISTER BEFORE HER DEPARTURE FOR IRAQ LATE
TONIGHT.
VAN HOLLEN

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Message Attributes

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